

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 58th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN BILL THOMAS**, on March 14, 2003 at
3:00 P.M., in Room 172 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Bill Thomas, Chairman (R)
Rep. Arlene Becker, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Mark Noennig, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Tom Facey (D)
Rep. Steven Gallus (D)
Rep. Ray Hawk (R)
Rep. Daniel S. Hurwitz (R)
Rep. Larry Jent (D)
Rep. Penny Morgan (R)
Rep. Holly Raser (D)
Rep. Don Roberts (R)
Rep. Ron Stoker (R)
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Susan Fox, Legislative Branch
CJ Johnson, Committee Secretary

Please Note. These are summary minutes. Testimony and
discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 104 (3/11/03); SB 100 (3/11/03)
Executive Action: SB 104 Be Concurred In; SB 100 Be
Concurred In

HEARING ON SB 104

Sponsor: SEN JON TESTER, SD 45, Big Sandy

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. TESTER said this bill clarified the law governing per diem charges for State institutions. It changes the time for the annual review of the per diem charge for State institutions.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 1 - 19}

Proponents' Testimony:

Mick Robinson, Administrator, Fiscal Services Division, Department of Public Health & Human Services, defined per diem charge as taking the cost to be projected for the next year and dividing that by the full-time equivalent resident lows for the premium fiscal year. It is not feasible under the current statute to have an accurate calculation done by July 1st. The request to change the date on or before October 1st to allow them to come up with an accurate computation is the gist of this bill.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 19 - 34}

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

The Sponsor closed.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 34 - 39}

REP. BECKER will carry this bill on the House floor.

HEARING ON SB 100

Sponsor: SEN. DUANE GRIMES, SD 20, Clancy

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. GRIMES said this act eliminates the requirement for a health care database and eliminates the definition of the terminated Health Care Advisory Council.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 39 - 61}

Proponents' Testimony:

Mick Robinson, Administrator, Fiscal Services Division, Department of Public Health & Human Services, said in 1997 it was recommended that funding for the database be established. However, the funding has never come forward. The Department felt there are more urgent priorities in terms of the use of dollars as opposed to creation of the database. The database must meet the privacy standards at the national level. The Department is now asking for a repeal of this requirement because they don't have the money to go forward. He also supplied a copy of Montana Code Annotated 2001.

EXHIBIT (huh54a01)

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 61 - 92}

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

REP. NOENNIG asked **SEN. GRIMES** the cost of this program. **SEN. GRIMES** said the 1999 budget request was for \$220,000 of general fund and \$220,000 of federal funds to begin the process of developing the database.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 92 - 125}

REP. STOKER asked **SEN. GRIMES** if this legislation will end the existence of the Health Care Advisory Council. **SEN. GRIMES** said it had already been terminated. This legislation cleans up the remaining language. **SEN. BRADLEY** led the Health Care Authority which cost almost \$2 million. When that was all over with, the Legislature felt as if it could do nothing now because all of that was rejected due to cost.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 125 - 154}

Closing by Sponsor:

The Sponsor closed.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 154 - 162}

Written testimony was provided by Mary Dalton, Department of Public Health & Human Services for SB 113.

EXHIBIT (huh54a02)

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 100

Motion/Vote: REP. STOKER moved that SB 100 BE CONCURRED IN.
Motion carried 13-0.

Motion/Vote: REP. STOKER moved SB 100 be placed on the consent calendar. Motion carried 13-0.

REP. STOKER will carry this bill on the House floor.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 104

Motion/Vote: REP. NOENNIG moved that SB 104 BE CONCURRED IN.
Motion carried 13-0.

Motion/Vote: REP. NOENNIG moved SB 104 be placed on the consent calendar. Motion carried 13-0.

REP. BECKER will be carrying this bill on the House floor.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:00 P.M.

REP. BILL THOMAS, Chairman

CJ JOHNSON, Secretary

BT/CJ

EXHIBIT (huh54aad)